City of Willoughby Hills

NANCY E. FELLOWS
JOE JARMUSZKIEWICZ
DANIEL KNECHT
JANET R. MAJKA
TANYA TAYLOR DRAPER

MICHAEL KLINE Vice President of Council

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-04

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE MONTH OF APRIL AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH IN THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS.

WHEREAS, all children of our community have the right to live and grow in a safe, secure and supportive environment, enter school prepared to succeed, be able to choose healthy behaviors and grow to successful adulthood; and

WHEREAS, we the leaders of this community acknowledge that those rights are not always available to all children and although there has been significant progress to increase the safety and security of our children, we renew our commitment to protecting our most valuable resource; and

WHEREAS, during 2019, Lake County Children Services responded to 2,450 calls regarding children and their families and as a result, Children Services worked with approximately 1,000 children who presented with a variety of issues which could not be easily resolved; and

WHEREAS, statistics show that a great majority of children who have died from child maltreatment in the State of Ohio were under the age of five years old, thus never having the chance to attend kindergarten; and statistics further show that survivors of child abuse and neglect are at a greater risk for problems later in life that affect not just the child and family but our society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the best prevention of child abuse can only be done if we, both as a society and as individuals, take responsibility to offer parents and families the support and tools they need to provide healthy nurturing homes for their children.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS, COUNTY OF LAKE, STATE OF OHIO THAT:

<u>SECTION 1</u>. Council hereby declares April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the City of Willoughby Hills and urges the citizens of our community to join with us to become involved in activities this month and all through the year to raise awareness of child abuse and to focus our attention on providing safe environments for children and fostering confident, positive parents.

SECTION 2. The actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this legislation were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were held in compliance with all legal requirements including Chapter 107 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Willoughby Hills.

SECTION 3. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect at the earliest time permitted by law.

Christopher Hallum President of Council

Submitted to the Mayor for his approval

on this 3/57 day of march, 2020

Approved by the Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council Pro Dem

G. Andrew Gardner *Mayor*